

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN TRUDI SCHMIDT**, on April 5, 2007 at 8000 A.M., in Room 317-A Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Trudi Schmidt, Chairman (D)
Sen. Keith Bales (R)
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)
Sen. John Brueggeman (R)
Sen. John Cobb (R)
Sen. Mike Cooney (D)
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)
Sen. Greg Lind (D)
Sen. Corey Stapleton (R)
Sen. Bill Tash (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)
Sen. Dan Weinberg (D)
Sen. Carol Williams (D)

Members Excused:

Sen. Lane L. Larson (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Taryn Purdy, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 6, 4/2/2007; HB 7, 4/2/2007; HB 443, 4/2/2007; HB 444, 4/2/2007; HB 116, 4/2/2007; HB 3; HB 443-444, 4/2/2007; SJ 27, 4/2/2007

Executive Action: None.

00:00:00

00:00:49 Taryn Purdy, Legislative Fiscal Division re: technical changes

HEARING ON HB 6

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:23 REP. DAVE KASTEN (R), HD 30, opened the hearing on HB 6, Renewable resource grants.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:37 Ray Beck, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:03:35 Cathy Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division

[EXHIBIT\(fcs73a01\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:08:21 Sen. Laible to Cathy Duncan

00:10:58 Sen. Cooney to Cathy Duncan

00:11:11 Sen. Lind to Cathy Duncan

00:11:35 Sen. Lind to Ray Beck

Closing by Sponsor:

00:12:07 Rep. Kasten

HEARING ON HB 7

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:13:35 **REP. DAVE KASTEN (R), HD 30**, opened the hearing on **HB 7**, Reclamation and development grants.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:14:29 Ray Beck, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

00:15:18 Jeff Barber, Montana Environmental Information Center

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:16:28 Cathy Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:16:51 Sen. Lewis to Ray Beck

00:17:39 Sen. Barkus to Ray Beck

00:18:49 Sen. Hawks to Ray Beck

Closing by Sponsor:

00:19:44 Rep. Kasten

HEARING ON HB 443

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:20:07 **REP. JANNA TAYLOR (R), HD 11**, opened the hearing on **HB 443**, Appropriate funds to study leasing of water from Hungry Horse dam.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:23:21 Sen. Verdell Jackson, SD 5

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:26:06 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources
and Conservation

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:26:24 Sen. Tash to Rep. Taylor

00:26:56 Sen. Tash to Director Mary Sexton

00:27:53 Sen. Bales to Director Mary Sexton

Closing by Sponsor:

00:29:49 Rep. Taylor

HEARING ON HB 444

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:30:37 **REP. JANNA TAYLOR (R), HD 11**, opened the hearing on **HB 444**, Continuation of water use management by Clark Fork Basin task force.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:33:11 Sen. Verdell Jackson, SD 5

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:34:56 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources
and Conservation

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:35:14 Sen. Tash to Sen. Jackson

00:38:29 Sen. Wanzenried to Sen. Jackson

00:42:28 Sen. Williams to Director Mary Sexton

00:45:56 Sen. Williams to Rep. Taylor

00:48:49 Sen. Schmidt

00:48:52 Sen. Schmidt to Rep. Taylor

00:50:48 Sen. Williams to Rep. Taylor

00:51:12 Sen. Schmidt to Sen. Jackson

Closing by Sponsor:

00:55:21 Rep. Taylor

HEARING ON HB 116

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:57:01 **REP. RICK RIPLEY (R), HD 17**, opened the hearing on **HB 116**, Revise resource indemnity trust funding laws.

EXHIBIT(fcs73a02)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:05:02 Sen. Rick Laible, SD 44

01:05:57 Rep. John Sesso, HD 76

01:11:44 Sarah Carlson, Montana Association of Conservation Districts

01:12:32 Gary Amestoy, Chester Irrigation Project Steering Committee

Opponents' Testimony:

01:14:29 Jeff Hagener, Director, Fish, Wildlife and Parks

01:18:05 Richard Oppen, Department of Environmental Quality

01:23:21 Jeff Barber, Montana Environmental Information Center

01:25:30 Mark Aagenes, Montana Trout Unlimited

Informational Testimony:

01:26:15 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

01:27:34 Barbara Smith, Legislative Fiscal Division

01:27:47 Cathy Duncan, Legislative Fiscal Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:28:13 Sen. Hawks to Rep. Sesso

01:35:36 Sen. Hawks to Rep. Ripley

01:36:14 Sen. Hawks to Barbara Smith

01:37:45 Sen. Laible to Barbara Smith

01:41:00 Sen. Lind to Rep. Ripley

01:42:52 Sen. Lewis to Rep. Ripley

01:43:56 Sen. Bales to Rep. Ripley

01:45:20 Sen. Lind to Barbara Smith

01:47:03 Sen. Hawks to Barbara Smith

01:49:11 Sen. Tropila to Director Richard Oppen

01:51:41 Sen. Tropila to Director Jeff Hagener

01:52:22 Sen. Wanzelried to Rep. Ripley

01:54:56 Sen. Wanzelried to Director Richard Oppen

02:00:05 Sen. Wanzelried to Director Jeff Hagener

02:04:10 Sen. Hansen

02:04:21 Sen. Schmidt to Director Mary Sexton

Closing by Sponsor:

02:05:19 Rep. Ripley

HEARING ON HB 3

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:07:29 **REP. EVE FRANKLIN (D), HD 24**, opened the hearing on **HB 3**, Supplemental appropriations.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:12:52 John Chappuis, Department of Health and Human Services

EXHIBIT(fcs73a03)

02:17:58 Mike Ferriter, Director, Department of Corrections

02:25:21 Ann Bachman, Department of Natural Resources and
Conservation

EXHIBIT(fcs73a04)

02:28:34 Randi Hood, Chief Public Defender

02:33:13 Jim MacDonald, Warden, Crossroads Corrections Center

02:33:59 David Ewer, Budget Director

02:37:16 John Blacker, Department of Transportation

02:38:07 Lois Menzies, Court Administrator, Supreme Court

EXHIBIT(fcs73a05)

02:40:01 George Harris, Acting Executive Officer, Board of
Livestock

Opponents' Testimony:

02:41:00 Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT

Informational Testimony:

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:42:15 Sen. Wanzenried to Director Mike Ferriter

02:44:01 Sen. Lewis to Director Mike Ferriter

02:44:51 Sen. Weinberg to Rep. Franklin

02:46:50 Sen. Schmidt to Larry Fasbender, Deputy Director,
Department of Justice

02:47:37 Sen. Bales to Director Mike Ferriter

02:48:16 Sen. Bales to Rhonda Shafer, Department of Corrections

Closing by Sponsor:

02:49:34 Rep. Franklin

02:52:21 Sen. Schmidt reopened hearing on HB 443 and HB 444

HEARING ON HB 443 and HB 444

Proponents Testimony:

02:52:23 Gerald Mueller, Clark Fork Basin Task Force

EXHIBIT(fcs73a06)

HEARING ON SJ 27

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:58:49 **SEN. DAN WEINBERG (D), SD 2**, opened the hearing on **SJ 27**, Mental Health study to implement appropriation for that purpose.

Proponents' Testimony:

03:01:54 John Chappuis, Department of Public Health and Human Services

03:03:46 Joyce DeCunzo, Administrator, Addictive and Mental Disorders Division

03:05:35 Anita Roessmann, Montana Advocacy Program

03:06:21 Sen. Greg Lind, SD 50

03:06:54 Steve Yeakel, Montana Council for Maternal and Child Health

Opponents' Testimony:

03:07:37 Eric Pritchard, Helena

Informational Testimony:

03:12:49 Susan Fox, Executive Director, Legislative Services Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:13:15 Sen. Lind to Eric Pritchard

03:13:50 Sen. Lewis to Eric Pritchard

Closing by Sponsor:

03:15:20 Sen. Weinberg

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:15 P.M.

SEN. TRUDI SCHMIDT, Chairman

PRUDENCE GILDROY, Secretary

TS/pg

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([fcs73aad.pdf](#))